

BLONDIE



SALLY FORTH



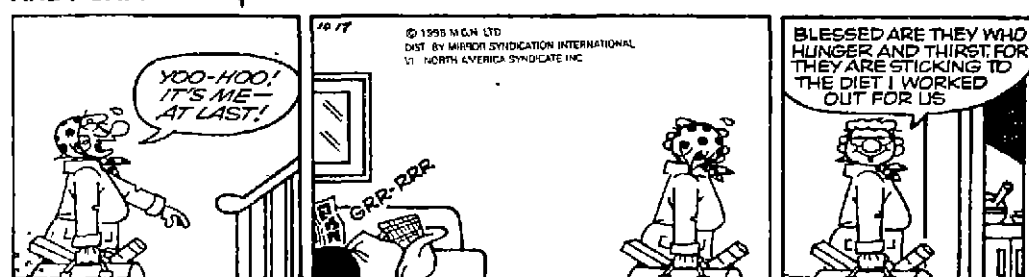
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



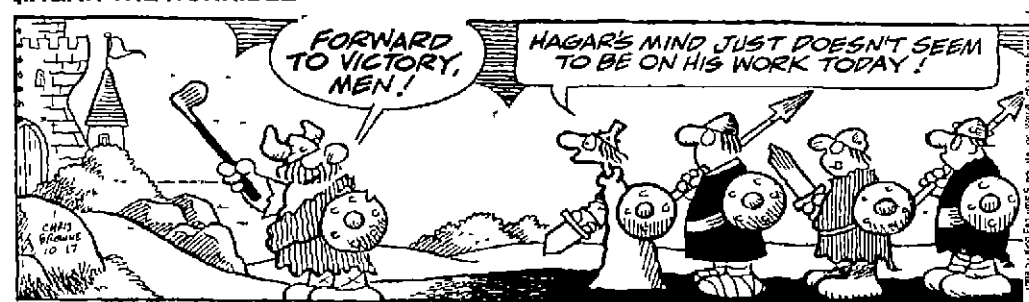
ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



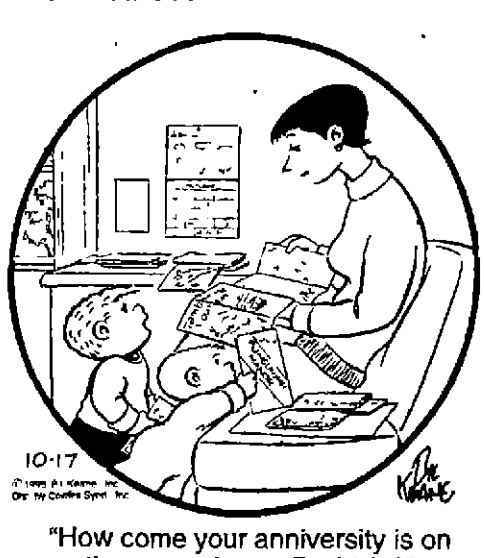
DILBERT



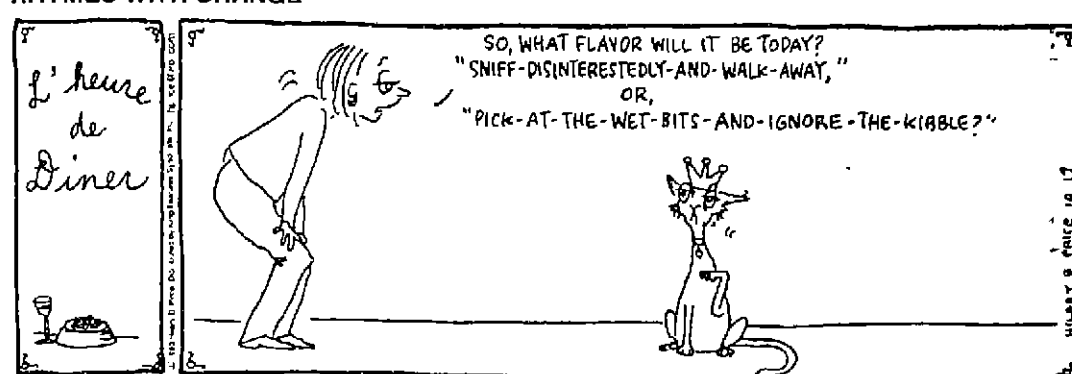
DENNIS THE MENACE



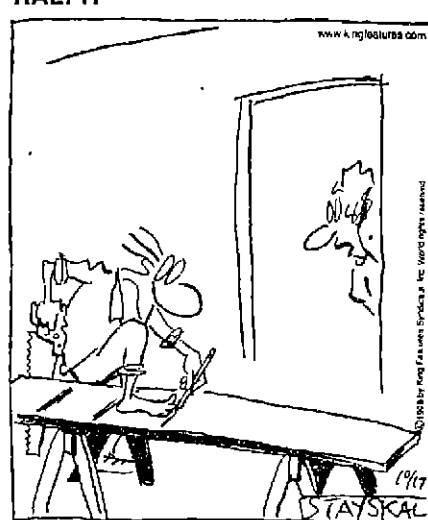
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



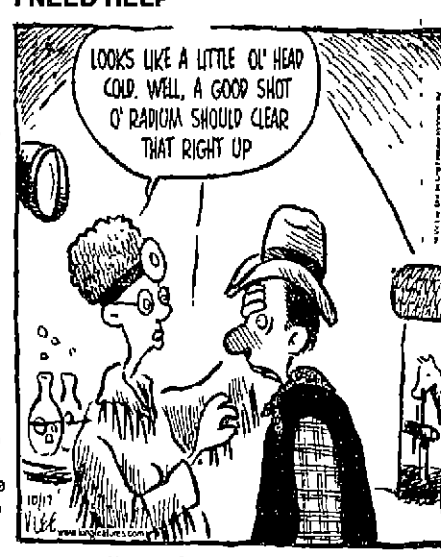
RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Actor Tom Poston is 71. Newspaper columnist Jimmy Breslin is 68. Daredevil Evel Knievel is 60. Singer Jim Seals (Seals & Crofts) is 57. Actress Margot Kidder is 50. Actor George Wendt is 50. Actor Bill Hudson is 49. Actor Sam Bottoms is 43. Astronaut Mae Jemison is 42. Country singer Alan Jackson is 40. Animator Mike Judge ("King of the Hill") is 36. Reggae singer Ziggy Marley is 30.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

Y A N T O O H P 3rd Letter Triple

M D S F O E R 1

A S G V E O Y 4

V T O E N R C 4th Letter Triple

PAR SCORE 175-185

by JUDD

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7 letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 10-17-98

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Sunday, Oct. 18, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You feel more kindhearted and compassionate than usual.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Listen to the advice of others, even though you might want to go in your own direction.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Go out and have a good time. Get where the action is.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A distasteful and unavoidable task looms in the near future. Grit your teeth and dive into the mix.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Everyone speaks the same language, and emotional barriers are temporarily down.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Consider your options and do painstaking research before making any decisions. The angles that you see might be temporarily distorted.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You are charismatic, attractive and totally in control.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) It is difficult to interact with others right now, particularly co-workers.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Your sense of humor is much appreciated.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Ask a trusted friend whether you have anything to fear except your own self-doubt.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) You are willing and able to strengthen your relationships with friends.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Avoid high-pressure situations, especially those that involve major purchases.

WORD SLEUTH

Long tails

J U E R P M J G D A X V S Q N

K I F S D A X E V T Q O M I H

F C A Y O W L U R P N L J H F

T E I L L O C K D B E Z L E

X N V T P R G A E Q S O M I S

R O A D R U N N E R D K P B U

I H A S R G F D O W R G B R O

Z T Y W A V T H R M A I Q E M

O X N R T E M O C M Z C U G L

K I O H F D H C A Z I X A Q W

V O U F S R Q P O N L M K M S

Friday's unlisted clue BLUE

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions—forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Saturday's unlisted clue hunt LASSIE

Comet Kangaroo Mongoose Roadrunner
Fox Lizard Mouse Squirrel
Gerbil Macaw Pheasant Tadpole
Horse Magpie Rat

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10-17

For solution, see Classified.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

When dummy appeared, South could count 11 winners in top cards. There were several approaches to try for a 12th, but only one was best. The first player accepted favorable odds of about 3-1. He cashed the king and ace of spades and took two finesses in clubs. Unfortunately, East had both honors, and the slam went one down. The next player won dummy's spade king and tried two top hearts, hoping to drop the jack. When both opponents followed low, he reverted to the club suit and suffered the same fate. The third, successful South, cashed all four spades and discarded two clubs from dummy. Now it was safe to take a club finesse. East won his club queen, but what could he do? Whatever his exit, South would get a free finesse, giving him his 12th winner. Dummy's long club suit clouded matters for the two losers. Only the third declarer saw through the haze and realized he had no need for dummy's fourth and fifth clubs. What he really needed to score was his slam-going trick.

NORTH 10-17 A
 ♠ K Q 10 7
 ♥ A 10
 ♦ J 8 8 3
 ♣ A J 8 8 3

WEST
 ♠ 10 9 8 6
 ♥ 4 3 2
 ♦ J 8 5 3
 ♣ 5 2

EAST
 ♠ 7 4 2
 ♥ J 9 8 5
 ♦ 9 6 4
 ♣ K Q 4

SOUTH
 ♠ A Q J 5
 ♥ A 8
 ♦ K Q 7 2
 ♣ 10 7 6

Vulnerable North South
Dealer South

The bidding:
 South West North East
 1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass
 2 ♠ Pass 6 NT All pass

Opening lead Spade 10

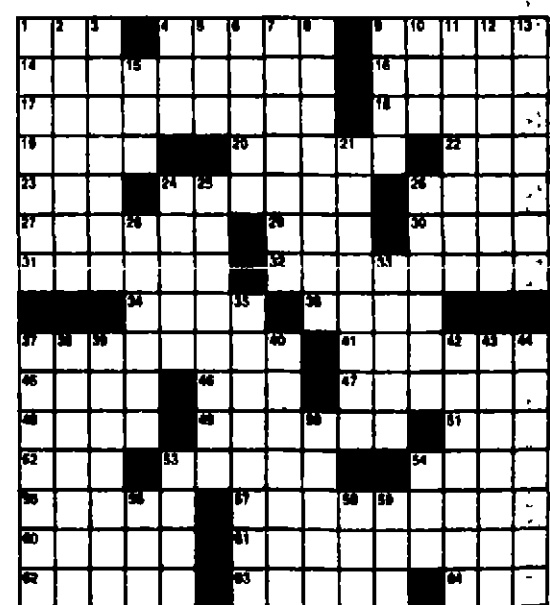
N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0905

- ACROSS**
- 1 First name in horror
- 4 "The Mosquito Coast" hero
- 9 Iron rich dish
- 14 Removals
- 16 Worth keeping
- 17 Most mephitic
- 18 Sharp—
- 19 Goiter's obstacle
- 20 Charger
- 22 Bad date, perhaps
- 23 Ch'in dynasty follower
- 24 Corsair, Ranger and Citation
- 26 Peace Nobel Cassin
- 27 Acquiesce
- 29 West Bank grp
- 30 "Theogony" figure
- 31 Workshop of Hephaestus
- 32 Isolate
- 34 One of the Pillars of Islam
- 36 Hospital supplies
- 37 Polish worker?
- 41 Election extension
- 48 "The True Believer" author Hoffer
- 49 Chaud period
- 47 1984 Timothy Hutton film
- 46 Old—beard (green lichen)
- 49 Silky wool source
- 51 Country on the Alt
- DOWN**
- 1 Home of soccer's United
- 2 Get to the root of?
- 3 Kind of fair
- 4 Break a rule in the military
- 8 Number of weeks per annum
- 9 Mississippi Valley deposit
- 7 Arch locales
- 9 Actress Vivian and others
- 9 "My Friend Irma" star
- 10 Yamaguchi's 1982 rival
- 11 Guts
- 12 Feminist Smeal
- 13 Most embarrassed
- 15 Like Bach's Sonata No. 3
- 21 Took in a poor boy
- 23 With lance in hand
- 24 Prefix with piano
- 26 Kalaupapa colonist
- 27 Mexican tongue
- 28 The 400
- 29 Life-support system
- 32 Lip—
- 33 Adjusted
- 34 Survey choice

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

TRINKET SAPPHO
 REDMORTAL ALTAIR
 ENCLOSURES UBANGI
 MEAL LETTERS AHS
 OGRE SHAY ECHO
 LEDTAN EES OLEAN
 OBBIAN RETREATS
 ETON LAIC
 GARNERED DETCHA
 IRONS WET GHOA
 NAME LEIA OROO
 FLU OILSKIN RAD
 ISLETS TENACITY
 ZEALOT SIGNEDIN
 ZANIES NEONATE



Puzzle by Thomas W. Schler

- 21 Secret
- 24 Purvance and O'Brien
- 25 Tie
- 26 Do some roadwork
- 28 Deontology
- 29 Betel nut source
- 30 Boeing product
- 37 Does for example
- 38 How hotheads react
- 39 Part of some splits
- 40 Succeed
- 42 Longtime Dodgers owner
- 43 Rarer than rare
- 44 35-Down's quartet
- 46 Fictional blade
- 53 He favored the Trojans
- 54 Part of N.C.A.A. Abbr.
- 55 Abbr. after a comma
- 56 Consumption
- 59 Quick witted

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch tone phone 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years 1-888-7-ACROSS